

Claims 6 - 10 remain in this application. Claims 1 - 5 are withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application containing claims 1 - 5 drawn to the non-elected invention at any time while prosecution of the present application remains pending.

The Office Action requires election of an invention from the following: Group I including claims 1 - 5; Group II including claims 6 - 10.

Applicant elects the invention of Group I, with claims 6 - 10 reading thereon.

This election is made with traverse. Applicant traverses the restriction requirement as applied to Groups I and II on the grounds that the inventions are so closely related that a search in either group would essentially be identical. Such a search, being substantially identical, dictates that prosecution of a divisional application resulting from the restriction would result in a duplication of effort by personnel of the Patent Office, and would not be in the interests of promoting prosecution efficiency.

In view of the fact that the claims in question here have related subject matter and in view of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's policy of promoting prosecution efficiency, particularly as it relates to restriction practice, reconsideration of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested and withdrawal of this restriction is respectfully requested.

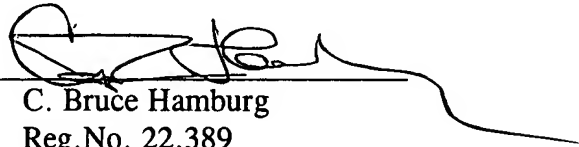
Should the restriction requirement not be withdrawn, Applicant reserves the right to file a Divisional application at a later date on the non-elected claims. Accordingly, reconsideration of the restriction requirement and favorable action on the merits of this application are respectfully requested.

Applicant respectfully requests a two month extension of time for responding to the Office Action. Please charge the fee of \$400.00 for the extension of time to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,
Jordan and Hamburg LLP

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Bruce Hamburg", is written over a horizontal line.

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